Note: This address was recorded at 11:02 a.m. on July 2 in the Oval Office at the

White House for broadcast after 6 a.m. on July 3.

Statement on Signing the Unemployment Compensation Amendments of 1992

July 3, 1992

Today I am pleased to sign into law H.R. 5260, the "Unemployment Compensation Amendments of 1992." This legislation would extend the Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program to March of next year. Without this extension, the EUC program would expire on July 4th.

Unemployment has a profound effect on people's lives. The extension of the EUC program is consistent with my strong and sustained commitment to providing needed assistance to the unemployed and their families while the economy recovers. These benefits will provide critical support to unemployed Americans until they can find jobs. I am pleased that the Administration and the Congress worked together successfully in the last few days to enact this important extension of benefits.

I call on the Congress to move rapidly

on my economic growth package, with hopefully the same bipartisan spirit of cooperation. Enactment of these reforms and incentives is essential to creating the jobs that all Americans want. Action on them is long overdue. I urge the Congress now to turn to this unfinished business and to quickly enact my program for economic growth and job creation to ensure a strong, sustained recovery and long-term economic prosperity for our Nation.

GEORGE BUSH

The White House, July 3, 1992

Note: H.R. 5260, approved July 3, was assigned Public Law No. 102–318. An original was not available for verification of the content of this statement.

Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on the Andean Trade Preference Act

July 3, 1992

President Bush today proclaimed Bolivia and Colombia to be beneficiary countries under the Andean Trade Preference Act of 1991 (ATPA). These are the first two countries to be designated under the ATPA.

The ATPA is designed to help encourage a transition from the production of illicit drugs to legitimate products in the Andean countries. Under the Act, beneficiary countries may export a wide range of products to the United States on a duty-free or preferential tariff basis.

The President's action helps fulfill a commitment he made at the 1990 Cartagena

drug summit to improve access to the U.S. market for exports from Andean countries. It is one element of the Bush administration's war against international drug trafficking. The administration is continuing its review of the status of other potential beneficiaries, Peru and Ecuador.

Note: The proclamations of July 2 are listed in Appendix E at the end of this volume.